Message Text

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PAGE 01 USNATO 04323 271848Z ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-05 INR-10 L-03 ACDA-12 NSAE-00 PA-01 SS-15 SP-02 ICA-11 TRSE-00 NSC-05 OIC-02 /079 W

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FM USMISSION USNATO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1115
SECDEF WASHDC
INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
CINCLANT NORFOLK VA
USLOSACLANT NORFOLK VA
USNMR SHAPE BE
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: DPC, NATO, MPOL, BE

SUBJECT: DPC MINISTERIAL - BELGIAN MOD INVITATION TO

SECDEF BROWN

REF: BRUSSELS 8229 (DTG 271125Z APR 78)(NOTAL)

- 1. WE SEE CONSIDERABLE MERIT IN SECRETARY BROWN'S ACCEPTANCE OF MOD VANDEN BOEYNANTS' MAY 17 DINNER INVITATION (REFTEL). WHILE RECOGNIZING INVITATION MAY BE OFFERED, IN PART, AS A CONSEQUENCE OF VANDEN BOEYNANTS' NON-ATTENDANCE AT THE FREDERICKSHAVN NPG MEETING, THE PRESENT JUNCTURE IN BELGIUM'S DEFENSE AFFAIRS APPEARS CRUCIAL ENOUGH TO WARRANT A SPECIAL US NOD TO THE BELGIAN MOD.
- 2. A SECDEF ACCEPTANCE WOULD HELP REAFFIRM OUR MORAL SUPPORT FOR VANDEN BOEYNANTS' EFFORTS, WOULD PROVIDE THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 02 USNATO 04323 271848Z

OPPORTUNITY FOR VANDEN BOEYNANTS TO EXPRESS HIS CURRENT VIEWS ON BELGIUM'S DEFENSE PARALYSIS, AND PERMIT SECDEF TO EXPRESS CONCERN THAT US PATIENCE AND UNDERSTANDING FOR BELGIUM'S PROBLEMS HAVE THUS FAR BEEN GREETED ONLY BY MORE FRUSTRATION AND DELAY.
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